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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
HANG, VU B	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/617,480	GASSHO, KAZUHITO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Vu B. Hang	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 September 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *30 January 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

- This office action is responsive to the communication filed on 09/28/2009.
- The amendments received on 09/28/2009 have been entered and made of record.
- Claims 1-25 are pending in the current application.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 09/28/2009, with respect to the previously cited prior art references and the amended independent claims, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the previous rejections of Claims 1-25 have been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, new grounds of rejections are made in view of Sato et al. (US Patent 6,567,179 B1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-16 and 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferlitsch (US Pub. 2002/0089692 A1) in view of Tanaka (US Pub. 2002/0186410 A1), and in further view of Sato et al. (US Patent 6,567,179 B1).

4. Regarding **Claim 1**, Ferlitsch discloses a system in which a print job submitting device and a plurality of print devices are connected via network (see Fig.15, Fig.16 and paragraph

[0086]), a print job management system that is disposed corresponding to each of the print devices and manages print jobs (see Fig. 16 (822), Fig.17 (842) and paragraphs [0129-0130]), the print job management system comprising: a job storage unit that, when a request to execute a two-way type print job, which is to be executed in connection with a two-way communication between the print job submitting device and the print device, is received from the print job submitting device (see Fig.8, Fig.25, paragraph [0085], paragraph [0087] and paragraph [0147]), stores print job instruction data for job control (see Fig. 15, Fig.16 (810,822), paragraph [0113] and paragraph [0129]); a print job execution unit, that when it is determined that a timing of printing the two-way type print job is reached according to the print job instruction data, establishes a two-way communication between the print job submitting device and the print device and thereby executes printing (see Fig.15, Fig.16 (810,822), paragraph [0108], paragraphs [0112-0113] and paragraph [0129]); a storage location change unit, when an instruction for moving the print job to another print device is input, changes a storage location of the predetermined data to another print job management system that corresponds to another printing device (see Fig.24 and paragraphs [0142-0143]); and a notification unit that provides a notification of change in the storage location to the print job submitting device (see Fig.12 (580,584,586,588,590,592,594,596) and paragraphs [0099-0100]). [Note; A notification is issued to a user when a print job is redirected from the default printer to a different printer.]

5. Ferlitsch fails to disclose wherein the print job includes a body of data and job information, and wherein the job unit stores the job information during the print request and the job execution unit receives the body of data and processes the body of data with job information during the job execution process. Ferlitsch also fails to disclose wherein the notification includes

an address another print device and an instruction for switching a destination of the two-way communication. Ferlitsch, however, teaches obtaining an IP address of the printers on the network (see Fig.9 (450,544,546) and paragraphs [0087-0088]), and using the IP address information for identifying the printers and their status information (see Fig.9 (450,544,546) and paragraphs [0090-0092]). Ferlitsch further teaches using a user interface to prompt a user to make a selection of available printing devices for re-directing a print job (see Fig.11 and paragraphs [0097-0098]). Tanaka discloses a print system in which a print job can be redirected (see Fig.5 (100) and paragraph [0053]), wherein the status of a specified print device is detected (see Fig.3 (15), Fig.4 (S2) and paragraphs [0041-0042]), and wherein the print data of a print job is transmitted to the print device when it is in printable state (see Fig.3 (2,15,16), Fig.4 (S3,S7), paragraphs [0026-0027] and paragraphs [0041-0042]). Tanaka further discloses wherein a printer data/job history message, including the client IP address information and the redirecting instruction, is generated (see Fig.7 (300) and paragraph [0061]). Tanaka further teaches specifying the IP address of a printer to perform printing (see Fig.7 (300) and paragraph [0063]). Sato discloses a print system in which a print job includes print data and control data (see Fig.2 (204,205,206), Fig.4 (1,3,4,7) and Col.8, Line 13-20), wherein the print data and control data are analyzed separately and then processed together during job execution process (see Fig.2 (204,205,206), Fig.4 (1,3,4,7) and Col.9, Line 4-39).

6. Ferlitsch, Tanaka and Sato are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor namely print data processing systems. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to include a means for storing the job information during a request to execute printing and a means for processing the print data with job information during

job execution process. The motivation would be to ensure connection to a specified printer, and to process the print job in accordance to the job information or control data when the printer is available and in printable state. It is further obvious for one skilled in the art to include to the notification the address information of the print device to be used and an instruction for switching a destination of the two-way communication. The motivation would be to communicate to the user the change in print job storage location when the print job is redirected. This would allow the user to know where and which printing device the print job is being redirected to.

7. Regarding **Claim 2**, Ferlitsch further discloses the storage location change unit moves the print job instruction data to another print job management system (see Fig.24 and paragraphs [0142- 0143]).

8. Regarding **Claim 3**, Ferlitsch, Tanaka and Sato teach the print job management system of Claim 1 but they fail to expressly disclose wherein the storage change unit deletes the job information and then causes the print job submitting device to resubmit the print job to another print device. Ferlitsch, however, teaches resubmitting the print job to another print device (see Fig.24, paragraph [0120] and paragraphs [0142-143]), and reconfiguring the print task for printing on the printers that the print job is distributed to (see paragraph [0142]). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have the storage change unit delete the print job instruction data and cause the print job submitting device to resubmit the print job to another print device. The motivation would be to delete unnecessary data in the buffer or queue and to create memory space for the next print job instruction data to be received.

9. Regarding **Claims 4 and 14**, Ferlitsch further discloses the print job instruction data comprises a part of data that constitutes the print job (see Fig.15 (684), paragraphs [0112-0113] and paragraph [0120]).

10. Regarding **Claims 5 and 15**, Ferlitsch further discloses a hold instruction that, at the time of receiving the request to execute the two-way type print job, causes the print job submitting device to put the transmission of the print job on hold (see Fig.15, paragraph [0106] and paragraph [0108]).

11. Regarding **Claims 6 and 16**, Ferlitsch further discloses the notification of change includes information that specifies another print device (see Fig. 15 (684), paragraphs [0112-0113] and paragraph [0120]); and information that represents a new storage location of the print job instruction data (see Fig.15, Fig. 16 (810,822), paragraph [0113] and paragraph [0129]).

12. Regarding **Claims 7 and 9-12**, the claims recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in Claims 1 and 3-6 above and or in combination thereof. Therefore, Claims 7 and 9-12 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in Claims 1 and 3-6.

13. Regarding **Claim 8**, Ferlitsch further discloses the information on the change of the storage location includes information specifying the print job submitting device and instruction for changing the storage location (see Fig.15 and paragraphs [0142-0143]); and wherein by the notification of change, the change notification unit requires the print job submitting device that is specified by the information on the change of the storage location to resubmit the print job (see Fig.15 (700,708) and paragraphs [0142-0143]).

Regarding **Claim 13**, Ferlitsch discloses a print job management system that manages print jobs in a system in which a print job submitting device and a plurality of print devices are connected via a network (see Fig.16 (822), Fig.17 (842) and paragraphs [0129-0130]), wherein a spooler is disposed corresponding to each of the print devices (see Fig.16 (822), Fig.17 (842) and paragraphs [0129-0130); and wherein when a request to execute a two-way type print job, which is to be executed in connection with a two-way communication between the print device and the print job submitting device, is received (see Fig.8, Fig.25, paragraph [0085], paragraph [0087] and paragraph [0147]), the spooler stores print job instruction data for job control (see Fig.15, Fig.16 (810,822), paragraph [0113] and paragraph [0129]), the print job management system comprising: a move detection unit that detects the move of print job instruction data between the respective spoolers (see Fig.24 and paragraphs [0142- 0143]); and a change notification unit that, when the move is detected, provides a notification of change in storage location to the print job submitting device (see Fig.15 (700,708) and paragraphs [0113-0114]).

Ferlitsch fails to disclose wherein the print job includes a body of data and job information, and wherein the body of data and job information are sent and stored separately. Ferlitsch also fails to disclose wherein the notification includes an address another print device and an instruction for switching a destination of the two-way communication. Ferlitsch, however, teaches obtaining an IP address of the printers on the network (see Fig.9 (450,544,546) and paragraphs [0087-0088]), and using the IP address information for identifying the printers and their status information (see Fig.9 (450,544,546) and paragraphs [0090-0092]). Ferlitsch further teaches using a user interface to prompt a user to make a selection of available printing devices for re-directing a print job (see Fig. 11 and paragraphs [0097-0098]). Tanaka discloses a

print system in which a print job can be redirected (see Fig.5 (100) and paragraph [0053]), wherein the status of a specified print device is detected (see Fig.3 (15), Fig.4 (S2) and paragraphs [0041-0042]), and wherein the print data of a print job is transmitted to the print device when it is in printable state (see Fig.3 (2,15,16), Fig.4 (S3,S7), paragraphs [0026-0027] and paragraphs [0041-0042]). Tanaka further discloses a print system in which a print job can be redirected (see Fig.5 (100) and paragraph [0053]), wherein a printer data/job history message, including the client IP address information and the redirecting instruction, is generated (see Fig.7 (300) and paragraph [0061]). Tanaka further teaches specifying the IP address of a printer to perform printing (see Fig.7 (300) and paragraph [0063]). Sato discloses a print system in which a print job includes print data and control data (see Fig.2 (204,205,206), Fig.4 (1,3,4,7) and Col.8, Line 13-20), wherein the print data and control data are analyzed separately and then processed together during job execution process (see Fig.2 (204,205,206), Fig.4 (1,3,4,7) and Col.9, Line 4-39).

14. Ferlitsch, Tanaka and Sato are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor namely print data processing systems. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to include to the print job the print data and job information, and a means for sending and storing the print data and job information separately. The motivation would be to ensure connection to a specified printer, and to process the print job in accordance to the job information or control data when the printer is available and in printable state. It is further obvious for one skilled in the art to include to the notification the address information of the print device to be used and an instruction for switching a destination of the two-way communication. The motivation would be to communicate to the user the change in

print job storage location when the print job is redirected. This would allow the user to know where and which priming device the print job is being redirected to.

15. Regarding **Claims 18-19, 21-23 and 25**, the rationale provided for the rejection of Claim 1 is incorporated herein.

16. Regarding **Claims 20 and 24**, the rationale provided for the rejection of Claim 13 is incorporated herein.

17. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferlitsch (US Pub. 2002/0089692 A1) in view of Sato et al. (US Patent 6,567,179 B1).

18. Regarding **Claim 17**, Ferlitsch discloses a network to which a plurality of print devices are connected (see Fig.16, Fig. 17 and paragraph [0086]), including a print job submitting device that submits a print job to one of the print devices (see Fig.16 (822), Fig.17 (842) and paragraphs [0129-0130]), wherein a print job management system is for controlling print job execution is disposed corresponding to each of the print device (see Fig.16 (822), Fig. 17 (842) and paragraphs [0129-0130]), the print job submitting device comprising: a communication establishment unit that, in execution of a two-way type print job that requires two-way communication with the print device at the time of printing, establishes a two-way communication with the print device according to an instruction from the print job management system (see Fig.8 (522), Fig.25 (432), paragraph [0085], paragraph [0087] and paragraph [0147]); and a communication switch unit that, when a notification of change, which represents that the print device for print job execution is changed, is received from one of the print job management systems, switches the destination of the two-way communication to a new print device (see Fig.15 (700,708), Fig.24, paragraphs [0113-0114] and paragraphs [0142-0143]).

19. Ferlitsch fails to disclose wherein the print job includes a body of data and job information. Sato, however, discloses a print system in which a print job includes print data and control data (see Fig.2 (204,205,206), Fig.4 (1,3,4,7) and Col.8, Line 13-20), wherein the print data and control data are analyzed separately and then processed together during job execution process (see Fig.2 (204,205,206), Fig.4 (1,3,4,7) and Col.9, Line 4-39).

20. Ferlitsch and Sato are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor namely print data processing systems. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to include to the print job the print data and job information, and sending the print data directly to a print device during a print job execution process. The motivation would be to process the print data in accordance with the instructions specified in the control data during the print job execution process.

Conclusion

21. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

22. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vu B. Hang whose telephone number is (571)272-0582. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00am - 6:00pm.

24. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

25. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vu B. Hang/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/David K Moore/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625